

ATHENS RADIO CLUB MINUTES

October 6, 2020

The meeting was held on the Zoom platform and called to order at 7:30 PM

In attendance: 15.

Constabile, Tony-KB2DPY
Hallman, Gerald -KN4AAA
Hickey, Jesse N4JAH- President
Johnson, Bruce P.-KX4AZ
Johnson, Robert - KE4GVX
Koehler, Phil AF4TQ
McCook, Kathleen- KN4IJM -Secretary
McKinnon, Howell- KM4ZXR
Ray, Claude- AC4SH
Reeves, James - KF4AQO
Rollor, Ed- N4ZRA-ARES
Slutsky, Alan- KA4FJV
Strang, Sam- KN4SPF
Waters, Rick WA4ERS-Past President
Waters, Ron- WA5ERS

Members introduced themselves and shared what they have been doing in radio since the September meeting. Jess Hickey and Claude Ray talked about Parks on the Air, POTA, and Claude Ray shared an activation map.

Presentation

One Example of a Homebrew Solar Generator James Reeves, KF4AQO

Link to Presentation is Here.

Business Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Jess Hickey, N4JAH at 8:15.

Old Business

- **Minutes of the September 1, 2020 meeting were approved.**
- **Treasurers Report:**

--Treasurer, Nola Geeter KG4OVO (e-mail)

Funds: \$15,697.40 which includes extant funds, auction proceeds and the \$725.05 left from the donation for the repeater.

- **VE Report**- Reeves, James KF4AQO - **VE Coordinator and Repeater Trustee**

16 people took examinations on October 7, 2020.

12 passed

8-Tech

3-General

1-Extra

Athens Radio Club VE sessions.

Dates and Time: The first Tuesday of even-numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, and December). Starting time is 6:00 PM sharp.

Location: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 706 Whitehead Rd, Athens, Georgia 30606

Restroom availability: Restrooms will be available.

Please bring the following:

- 1) Photo ID
- 2) \$15.00 cash/check for the ARRL processing fee
- 3) Pencil/pens
- 4) Calculator
- 5) A copy of your current license, if taking the General or Extra exam
- 6) your FRN number (<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/support/universal-licensing-system-uls-resources/getting-fcc-registration-number-frn>) or social security number. Your application cannot be processed without one of these numbers.

Regarding Testing Procedures: We will practice social distancing. Also, please wear a mask.

Once you arrive, enter the building from the parking lot side and turn left at the end of the short hall, then turn right and enter the double doors on your right.

A VE will distribute your application, an exam answer sheet, and will check your photo ID. When these are completed your application and \$15.00 processing fee will be collected and you will be given the exam. DO NOT WRITE ON THE EXAM.

A VE will collect your answer document and exam when you are ready. Your exam will be graded. When you pass the Tech exam you will have the option of taking the General Exam at no additional cost, if you pass the General, you may also take the Extra Exam at no cost. Once your exam(s) have been graded you and the VE will complete a certificate of successful completion. DO NOT leave without completing this certificate and be certain that the VE team has the ARRL copy of the certificate. You will not receive your license if the ARRL does not receive their copy.

This isn't as complicated as it seems but, times being as they are, knowing the testing procedures will save time and limit the personal exposure between candidates and VE members. Please contact **kf4aqo@gmail.com** (James) if you have questions or comments.

- **ARES – Rollor, Ed N4ZRA**
Clarke County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Simulated Emergency Test

After Action Report

Submitted by Ed Rollor, N4ZRA

Event: GA ARES and Clarke County ARES Simulated Emergency Test

Date: October 3, 2020

Time: 0800 to 1100

Clarke County ARES EC Ed Rollor, N4ZRA, encouraged ARES members to download the GA ARES 2020 SET and the Clarke County ARES information packets for the SET. Seven Clarke County ARES members registered for the event, but only six checked into the net. Of the six, one operated via WinLink Telnet only throughout the event.

This exercise provided a learning environment for the Clarke County ARES team members by promoting an opportunity to practice emergency communication techniques and procedures. The earthquake scenario provided a potential mass casualty event requiring a local as well as a regional coordinated response and could have been an excellent opportunity for public health coalition members and other community partners to work together with amateur radio operators in developing emergency communication operations. However, Clarke County ARES SET communications were all conducted from home stations.

The SET communication team and assignments were follows:

Max McNiff, KO4EEX, Net Control (Traffic net)

Ed Rollor, N4ZRA, Clarke County EOC

Sam Strang, KN4SPF, Regional Coordinating Hospital (RCH)

Jim Hawkins, KF4RX, Red Cross Damage Assessment Team (DAT)

Tom Broom, K4THB, Regional Public Health District EOC

Daniel Whitehead, KJ4NGE, Red Cross Shelter

Stations worked through the traffic net to properly contact other stations to pass and relay traffic. Various ICS and Red Cross forms were utilized during the drill using different frequencies

and modes such as phone, WinLink (Gateway and Peer to Peer) and packet. Amateur radio emergency coordinators from Walton and Hall County exchanged traffic with Clarke County ARES during this event.

Top 3 Strengths

- Digital Communications were used to transmit complex ICS and ARC forms.
- Voice transmissions were used to successfully pass ICS-213 traffic.
- Status updates were provided relative to public health and the hospital status.

Top 3 Opportunities for Improvement

- All stations operated from home and not at served agency locations.
 - o Due to the difficulties created by the Covid-19 pandemic, amateur radio operators were not deployed to served agencies.
- Some stations do not have sound card modems capable of sending and receiving digital traffic which made the use of some the ICS and ARC forms difficult.
 - o During the exercise one station used WinLink as the only means of communicating through the net. The Traffic NCS setup WinLink during the exercise and received messages via Telenet. Stations

Public Service Report

Bob Herrin, KE4JLL,

First Aid Dawgs Report October 03, 2020 Georgia vs. Auburn SCHEDULE Times Activity 2:30 pm Advance Team in Stadium 4:30 pm Volunteers arrived at Tate Center for Orientation and Covid 19 Screening 5:40 – 5:50 pm In stadium and retrieved Equipment and Supplies 6:00 pm Volunteers in stations 7:38 pm Kickoff - Temperature - 65.7° F 10:59 pm Game Ended - Temperature - 58.2°F 11:20 p.m. Closed Net Control and released stations 11:55 pm Secured storage and closed operations VOLUNTEERS First Aid Only Radio Only First Aid and Radio Total Individuals 11 4 9 24 SERVICES Transport ETOH First Aid Dizzy Heat Distress Breathing Nausea

By game time there were about 20,000 fans present – typically we have almost five times that number. There were 24 volunteers, not enough to cover all the stations. Even though the number of fans was held to a lower number they were spread out all over the stadium, so the same number of volunteers was needed as if it were a full stadium. Fortunately we were not very busy.

The next game is this Saturday, October 10th against Tennessee. Hopefully we will have a full complement of volunteers for this one.

Repeater - still working on getting the kinks worked out for the new site. Have received SARA approval. Have new 2 meter pair.

New Business

Holiday party will take place December 12, 2020. Details will be sent to member.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM

Future dates:

October 17, 2020-Football Game.

November 3, 2020- Monthly Radio Club Meeting. Topic: "Amateur Radio Satellites"-presented by Jess Hickey,N4JAH.

December 1, 2020: 6:00p FCC Exam Session (DETAILS), 7:30p Athens Radio Club Meeting -

December 1, 2020: 6:00p FCC Exam Session (DETAILS), (NO DECEMBER RADIO CLUB MEETING)

December 12, 2020: 11:30 a.m. Annual Holiday Luncheon

Submitted Kathleen McCook KN4IJM, Secretary